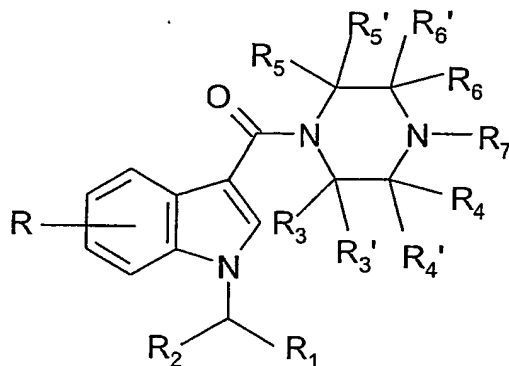


Claims.

1. An 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative having the general formula I



Formula I

wherein

R represents 1-4 substituents independently selected from H, (C₁₋₄)alkyl (optionally substituted with halogen), (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy (optionally substituted with halogen), halogen, OH, NH₂, CN and NO₂;

R₁ is (C₅₋₈)cycloalkyl or (C₅₋₈)cycloalkenyl;

R₂ is H, methyl or ethyl;

R₃, R_{3'}, R₄, R_{4'}, R₅, R_{5'} and R₆, R_{6'} are independently hydrogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyl, optionally substituted with (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy, halogen or OH;

R₆ is hydrogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyl, optionally substituted with (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy, halogen or OH; or

R₆ forms together with R₇ a 4-7 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from O and S;

R₇ forms together with R₆ a 4-7 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from O and S; or

R₇ is H, (C₁₋₄)alkyl or (C₃₋₅)cycloalkyl, the alkyl groups being optionally substituted with OH, halogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 1, wherein R₂ is H and R₁ is (C₅₋₆)cycloalkyl.

3. The 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 2, wherein R is (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy or halogen.

- 4 The 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 3, wherein R represents a methoxy group at the 7-position of the indole ring.
- 5 The 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 4, wherein R₃, R_{3'}, R_{4'}, R₅, R_{5'} and R_{6'} are H; R₄, R₆ and R₇ are independently H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl; or R₆ forms together with R₇ a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocyclic ring and R₄ is H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl.
6. The 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative according to formula I of claim 1 which is selected from:
- 1-[[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-7-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl]carbonyl]-3,5-dimethyl-4-ethylpiperazine;
 - 1-[[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-7-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl]carbonyl]-3,4,5-trimethylpiperazine;
 - 15 - (S)-1-[[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-7-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl]carbonyl]-3,4-dimethylpiperazine;
 - (S)-2-[[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-7-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl]carbonyl]-octahydro-2*H*-pyrido-[1, 2-*a*]pyrazine;
 - (S)-2-[[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-7-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl]carbonyl]-octahydro-2*H*-pyrrolo-[1, 2-*a*]pyrazine; and
 - 20 - (S)-2-[[1-(cyclopentylmethyl)-7-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl]carbonyl]-octahydro-2*H*-pyrido-[1, 2-*a*]pyrazine;
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 25 7. The 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of any one of claims 1-6 for use in therapy.
8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of any one of claims 1-6 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.
- 30 9. Use of an 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of formula I as defined in claim 1, in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of pain.